

# a joint mcwh-icepa national symposium



**prevention is  
the cure:**  
*unpacking health  
realities for  
immigrant and  
refugee women  
in australia*

**Wednesday  
28 October 2009  
9.30am - 4.00pm**  
**Victoria University  
Conference Centre  
Function Room 1  
Level 12  
300 Flinders Street  
Melbourne**

**INSTITUTE FOR  
COMMUNITY, ETHNICITY  
& POLICY ALTERNATIVES  
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY**

 **Multicultural  
Centre for  
Women's Health**  
*Putting Immigrant Women's Health First*

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**MCWH: Suite 207, Level 2, Carringbush Building, 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood, VIC 3066.**



## Keynote Speakers

### ✦ Professor Hurriyet Babacan

Professor Hurriyet Babacan is Director of the Institute for Community, Ethnicity and Policy Alternatives at Victoria University, Melbourne. She has over 20 years experience in senior roles as an academic, public servant, community worker, and researcher and trainer in the government, community and university sectors.

Hurriyet has undertaken research on issues including gender, migration, settlement, citizenship, racism, multiculturalism, identity and belonging, social inclusion, and community development. She has published extensively on these issues including articles for UNESCO.

Hurriyet's services to community and academic life have been recognised through a number of awards including the Bicentenary Medal awarded by the Prime Minister (2002), and the Multicultural Services Award presented by the Premier of Queensland (1999); she was also a Queensland Finalist for the Telstra Business Women's Award.

### ✦ Associate Professor Bebe Loff

Associate Professor Bebe Loff is the Head of the Human Rights and Bioethics Unit in the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Monash University and currently a Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Senior Research Fellow. She coordinates the Master of International Health and the Master of International Research Bioethics.

Prior to joining Monash University she was responsible for the legislative programmes of Ministers of Health in Victoria. She has worked in various capacities for a number of United Nations agencies including the World Health Organization, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and UNAIDS. She has been a member of several ethical review committees including that of the World Health Organization, the Australian Health Ethics Committee (a principal committee of the NHMRC). She was an Australian correspondent for *The Lancet* and a regular human rights commentator. She has worked in community based legal centres, with survivors of sexual assault, and with sex workers.

### ✦ Helen Rankin

Helen Rankin is the Director of the Gender and Reproductive Health Section of the Department of Health and Ageing. Among other things, the section is responsible for developing men's and women's health policies and managing programs that provide community and professional education on sexual and reproductive health.

Helen has a social work background and has worked in the community managing family support programs and programs assisting people with intellectual disabilities prior to joining the Department of Health and Ageing around 15 years ago.

### ✦ Dr Adele Murdolo

Adele Murdolo is the Executive Director of Multicultural Centre for Women's Health. Adele has worked in the field of immigrant and refugee women's issues for over 15 years, in both academic and community forums.

She has completed a PhD on the feminist activism of immigrant and refugee women in Australia. She has published on a wide variety of issues relating to women's reproductive and sexual health, sexuality and media representations, as well as issues for women in immigration detention.



# Symposium Program

## **Symposium MC**

*Gabrielle Fakhri*

9.00 - 9:30

**Registration**

## **PLENARY SESSION**

9:30 - 9:45

Welcoming Remarks:  
*MCWH Board Member*

9.45 - 10.15

'Migrant Women and Health:  
An Overview of Issues'  
*Professor Hurriyet Babacan*

10.15 - 10.45

'Sexual and Reproductive  
Preventative Health'  
*Adele Murdolo*

10.45 - 11.15

**Morning Tea**

11.15 - 11.45

'A Human Rights Framework for  
Considering the Health  
of Migrant Women'  
*Associate Professor Bebe Loff*

11.45 - 12.15

'National Women's Health Policy'  
*Helen Rankin*

12.15 - 12.45

Discussion

12.45- 1.45

**Lunch**

## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

1.45 - 2.45

Breakaway Groups to discuss  
National Women's Health Policy  
and Immigrant and Refugee  
Women's Health

## **PLENARY**

2.45 - 3.45

Feedback from Groups

3.45 - 4.00

Closing